Celebrating the Inaugural AiHimSa Peace Prizes for Givillionaires

Welcome to the Philanthropreneuring U. Virtual Campus, where on this 1st of June, 2025, we proudly host the Celebration of the 1st AiHimSa Peace Prizes for Givillionaires!

This special event follows our insightful "Deep Dive PeaceCasting4Good Session" from May 31st, co-hosted by CAZ & POLL, and expertly produced by BradiVarius, with PM Thomas Consulting as our Data Sommelier.

Tonight, we honor visionaries whose extraordinary contributions exemplify the spirit of giving and innovation for a more peaceful, equitable, and connected world. We are thrilled to recognize four remarkable individuals who are truly redefining philanthropy and technology for humanity.

Honorees of the 1st AiHimSa Peace Prizes:

- **Reed Hastings:** A champion of **education equity**, Reed Hastings has made groundbreaking donations, notably to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). His transformative giving empowers students and institutions, directly addressing historical inequities and fostering opportunities for diverse communities,

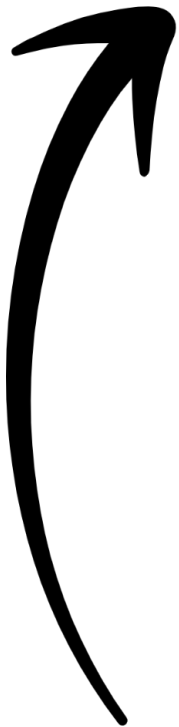thereby laying foundations for peace through knowledge and access.

- **MacKenzie Scott:** MacKenzie Scott is a revolutionary force in philanthropy, **changing the very definition of giving**. Her approach emphasizes large-scale, unrestricted grants, empowering grassroots organizations, especially those focused on racial equality, economic mobility, and healthcare equity. By trusting the experts on the front lines and funding systemic change, she embodies peace through radical empowerment and equity.

- **Esther Dyson:** A trailblazer in technology and investing, Esther Dyson's influence extends through strategic investments, thought leadership, and advocacy for a more ethical digital future. Her work on **health, open data, and responsible AI** seeks to create more equitable access to information and services, ensuring that technology serves humanity and contributes to a just

and inclusive society.

- **Dr. Vint Cerf:** Widely recognized as one of the "Fathers of the Internet," Dr. Vint Cerf's foundational work in creating the internet has profoundly enabled **digital inclusion and global connectivity**. His tireless advocacy for an open, accessible, and preserved internet provides the essential infrastructure for communication, education, and economic opportunity across diverse populations, fostering a connected world where understanding and peace can flourish.

These remarkable individuals demonstrate that giving extends beyond mere financial contribution, encompassing strategic empowerment, ethical innovation, and the very infrastructure of global connection. Their dedication to creating a better world through their unique forms of "Givillionaire" leadership makes them truly deserving of the AiHimSa Peace Prize.

We celebrate their past achievements and look forward to the continued positive impact they will undoubtedly bring to our global community.

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Deep Dive PeaceCasting4Good Session from 31 May Session with CAZ & POLL co-hosts. Exec. Producer BradiVarius. PM Thomas Consulting Data Sommelier

https://bit.ly/ROiHBCUDEI2025

Yes, my research into Reed Hastings' donations clearly reflects a strong focus on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), particularly within the realm of **education equity**.

Here's how his giving aligns with the segments I identified as having high DEI content and purpose:

- **Education Equity Non-profits (specifically Historically Black Colleges and Universities - HBCUs):** This is a prominent area of Hastings' philanthropy.[1]

    - In 2020, Reed Hastings and his wife Patty Quillin made a landmark **$120 million donation to be split among Morehouse College, Spelman College, and the United Negro College Fund (UNCF).**[2] This was notably the largest individual gift ever made to support scholarships at HBCUs at the time. This directly addresses historical inequities in education and aims to provide equitable

opportunities for Black students.[3]

- They have also provided other significant gifts to HBCUs, such as a **$10 million gift to Tougaloo College** (an HBCU in Mississippi) in 2022 to bolster the school's endowment and provide scholarships, including support for the Brown-Tougaloo Partnership.[4]

- Their overall **Hastings Fund** (a donor-advised fund at the Silicon Valley Community Foundation) has also previously donated to the Hispanic Foundation of Silicon Valley for college scholarships for Black and Latino students.[5]

- **Community Foundations and Philanthropic Organizations (as a funding mechanism for DEI):**
  - A significant portion of their giving, including a **$1.1 billion gift in Netflix stock in January 2024**, has gone to their Hastings Fund at the Silicon Valley

Community Foundation.[6] While this is a broad education fund, the specific targeting of funds within it, like those for HBCUs and Hispanic students, indicates a strong DEI lens.

- **Education (with a focus on ethical frameworks for AI):**
  - More recently, in March 2025, Hastings donated **$50 million to Bowdoin College** to establish the "Hastings Initiative for AI and Humanity."[7] While this might not seem immediately "DEI-focused," the initiative explicitly emphasizes **ethical frameworks for AI** and exploring what it means for AI to "widen inequities in society."[8] This demonstrates an understanding that technological advancements must be considered through a lens of equity and fairness, which is a growing area of DEI work.

In summary, Reed Hastings' donations heavily reflect a commitment to DEI, especially through:

- **Direct support for educational institutions that primarily serve underrepresented groups (HBCUs).** This directly addresses historical and systemic inequities in access to quality education.[9]
- **Funding mechanisms (like his Hastings Fund) that prioritize scholarships for students from marginalized communities.**[10]
- **An emerging focus on the ethical implications of technology, including how it might impact societal inequities.**

His stated motivations for these gifts often touch upon the importance of addressing racism and supporting "Black achievement," further underscoring the DEI purpose of his philanthropy.

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https://bit.ly/MSAiHimSaGivillionaireJune25

MacKenzie Scott has indeed become a powerful force in philanthropy, and her approach is widely considered to be a significant departure from traditional giving, effectively "changing the whole definition of giving" in several key ways. Her philanthropy strongly emphasizes Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), making it a central pillar of her strategy.

Here's a breakdown of her approach and how it embodies and amplifies DEI:

1. Unrestricted, Large-Scale Giving with Trust:

- The defining characteristic of her giving is the lack of restrictions. Unlike many

traditional philanthropists who impose strict guidelines on how funds can be used, Scott gives large, often multi-million dollar, grants with no strings attached. This is based on her belief that the organizations on the ground, closest to the challenges, know best how to utilize the resources for maximum impact.

- This approach inherently promotes equity. It empowers organizations, especially those historically underfunded or led by people of color, to allocate resources where they are most needed, addressing their unique community's specific needs rather than fitting into a donor's predetermined agenda. This trust-based philanthropy shifts power

dynamics.

- **Impact: Research from the Center for Effective Philanthropy (CEP) has consistently shown that these large, unrestricted gifts have a "transformative effect" on nonprofits. They lead to greater financial stability, increased programmatic impact, and even boost the confidence and reduce burnout of nonprofit leaders, particularly leaders of color who often face more scrutiny and distrust from other donors.**

2. Focus on Equity-Oriented Non-profits in Underfunded Areas:

- **Scott's "quiet research" process deliberately identifies and supports**

organizations working on issues like racial equality, economic mobility, healthcare equity, and education equity. Her gifts consistently go to communities facing high projected food insecurity, racial inequity, high poverty rates, and low access to philanthropic capital.

- Examples of beneficiaries that highlight her DEI focus:
    - Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities: She has provided significant, often unprecedented, funding to these institutions, directly addressing historical and systemic inequities in

education.

- Organizations focused on racial justice and civil rights: Many of her recipients are explicitly dedicated to dismantling systemic racism and advocating for marginalized groups.
- Non-profits addressing health disparities: Funds have gone to organizations working to ensure equitable access to healthcare and improve health outcomes for underserved populations.
- Groups focused on economic security and opportunity: This includes initiatives supporting small businesses, particularly those led by women and people of color, and

organizations working to alleviate poverty.

- ○ **Women's funds and organizations promoting gender equity: She has consistently supported groups advocating for women's rights and reproductive justice.**

3. Shifting the Narrative from "Giver" to "Recipient":

- **Scott often uses her platform to emphasize the expertise and dedication of the non-profit leaders and their teams, rather than focusing on her own generosity. She states her belief that "teams with experience on the front lines of challenges will know best how to put**

the money to good use."

- This humility and focus on empowerment are themselves DEI principles. It challenges the traditional philanthropic model where donors often dictate terms and take credit, instead highlighting the agency and vital work of the recipient organizations and the communities they serve.

4. Transparency and "Yield Giving":

- Through her "Yield Giving" website, Scott transparently lists all her donations, allowing the public to see where the money is going and who is benefiting. This level of transparency is uncommon among major philanthropists.
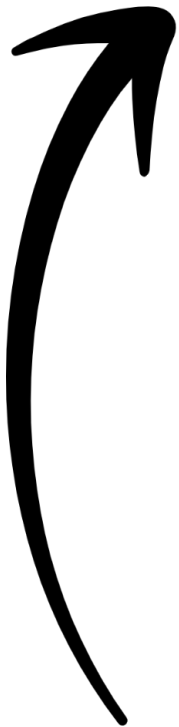
- The name "Yield Giving" itself signifies her philosophy of "adding value by giving up control," which is a core tenet of trust-based philanthropy and aligns with empowering diverse voices and initiatives.

In essence, MacKenzie Scott is changing philanthropy by:

- Prioritizing unrestricted, large-scale grants: This empowers recipients and shifts power dynamics.
- Directly funding organizations focused on systemic inequities: Her giving is explicitly aimed at addressing historical disadvantages faced by marginalized communities.

- **Embracing trust-based philanthropy:** She trusts the expertise of those closest to the problems, rather than imposing her own solutions.
- **Promoting transparency and accountability in her giving:** She shares her process and the impact of her gifts.

Her approach has spurred conversations and, to some extent, influenced other donors to consider more flexible and equitable giving practices. While not everyone has her resources, her philosophy provides a powerful model for how philanthropy can truly embody and advance DEI.

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https://bit.ly/VCAiHimSaGiverJune2025

Our next nominee, Dr. Vinton "Vint" Cerf, is famously known as one of the "Fathers of the Internet." His contributions to technology and connectivity have profound, though perhaps less direct, implications for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI).

Who is Dr. Vint Cerf?

- **Pioneer of the Internet: Alongside Robert Kahn, Dr. Cerf co-designed TCP/IP, the fundamental communication protocols that enable the internet to function. This work laid the groundwork for the global network we use today.**
- Internet Evangelist and Advocate: He has held significant roles at organizations like the Internet Society (ISOC) and Google,

where he serves as Vice President and Chief Internet Evangelist. In these roles, he tirelessly advocates for the internet's open, global nature and its continued development.

- **Visionary for the Future of Connectivity:** Dr. Cerf continues to work on extending internet capabilities, including interplanetary internet, and addressing long-term challenges like digital preservation.

How does Dr. Vint Cerf's work relate to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)?

Unlike the direct philanthropic giving of MacKenzie Scott or Reed Hastings, or the strategic investments and thought leadership

of Esther Dyson, Dr. Cerf's contribution to DEI is foundational and systemic. His work enables the very infrastructure through which much of modern DEI work, communication, and education takes place.

Here's how his contributions connect to DEI:

1. **Enabling Digital Inclusion and Access:**
   - **The Internet as a Great Equalizer (Potential):** By co-creating the internet, Dr. Cerf enabled a platform that has the *potential* to be a powerful equalizer. It allows people from diverse backgrounds, regardless of their geographic location or socio-economic status (assuming they have access), to connect, learn,

and access information. This foundational access is critical for digital equity.

- Bridging the Digital Divide: While the digital divide still exists, the very existence of the internet, thanks to Cerf and his colleagues, provides the tool that organizations and governments are now working to universally extend. His continued advocacy for internet access for all populations, including in developing countries, directly supports digital inclusion efforts.

2. Facilitating Communication and Collaboration:

- Global Dialogue: The internet allows

for global communication, enabling diverse voices and perspectives to be heard across geographical, cultural, and socio-economic boundaries. This is fundamental for fostering understanding, empathy, and collective action on DEI issues.

- Community Building: Online platforms facilitate the formation of communities around shared identities, experiences, and causes. This is crucial for marginalized groups to find support, organize, and advocate for their rights, which is a core aspect of social justice and DEI.

3. Promoting Education and Economic Opportunity:

- Access to Knowledge: The internet has democratized access to information and educational resources. This allows individuals from all walks of life to learn new skills, pursue education, and enhance their economic opportunities, regardless of traditional barriers. This directly addresses educational and economic inequities.
- Remote Work and Entrepreneurship: The internet has enabled remote work and global entrepreneurship, offering new avenues for economic participation that might bypass traditional biases or geographic limitations.

4. **Advocacy for an Open and Accessible Internet:**
    - **Net Neutrality: Dr. Cerf has been a vocal proponent of principles like net neutrality, which ensures that all internet traffic is treated equally. This prevents internet service providers from blocking or slowing down content, which could disproportionately affect marginalized voices or grassroots organizations, thereby upholding equity in access to online information.**
    - **Universal Design and Accessibility: His broader vision for the internet often includes considerations for accessibility, ensuring that the**
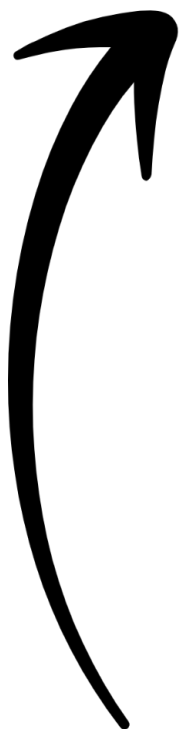
technology can be used by people with disabilities. This is a direct application of DEI principles in technological design.

5. **Preservation of Digital Information:**

   - **"Digital Dark Age":** Dr. Cerf has frequently warned about the potential "digital dark age" if we don't actively work to preserve digital information. This is a DEI issue because historical records, cultural heritage, and the voices of diverse communities exist increasingly in digital formats. Ensuring their long-term accessibility is crucial for future generations to understand and learn from diverse experiences.

In conclusion, Dr. Vint Cerf's contribution to DEI is through his fundamental role in creating and advocating for the internet itself. He built the platform that enables much of modern DEI work to flourish, fostering communication, collaboration, education, and economic opportunities for diverse populations globally. His ongoing advocacy for an open, accessible, and preserved internet continues to lay the groundwork for a more inclusive digital future.

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https://bit.ly/EDAiHimSaGivingJune25

To include Esther Dyson in our discussion, it's important to understand her background and how her contributions differ from, yet sometimes intersect with, the philanthropic approaches of individuals like MacKenzie Scott and Reed Hastings.

Who is Esther Dyson?

Esther Dyson is a prominent figure in the technology and investing world, known for her sharp intellect, insightful analysis, and early identification of trends.

- Journalist and Analyst: She gained significant recognition through her newsletter, *Release 1.0*, which provided early insights into the internet and digital technology.

- Angel Investor: She has been an early investor in numerous successful tech companies, including Flickr, Boxbe, and Medscape.
- Board Member and Advisor: Dyson has served on the boards of various organizations, both for-profit and non-profit, influencing strategy and direction in the tech and digital space.
- Focus on Health and Well-being: In recent years, a significant portion of her work and philanthropic interests have shifted towards health, open data, and the responsible use of technology for societal benefit, particularly in the realm of health and well-being.

How does Esther Dyson's approach differ from MacKenzie Scott and Reed Hastings, and how does it relate to DEI?

While Scott and Hastings are known for large-scale, often publicly announced philanthropic donations, Dyson's influence is often exerted through:

1. **Strategic Investment and Incubation:** Rather than just donating, Dyson often acts as an angel investor or provides seed funding to startups and initiatives that align with her vision for a better future, particularly in areas like health tech, open data, and responsible AI. This is a form of "impact investing" where financial returns are sought alongside

social or environmental benefits. While not always directly branded as "DEI," many of these initiatives aim to create more equitable access to services, information, or opportunities.

2. **Thought Leadership and Advocacy:** Dyson is a prolific speaker, writer, and commentator. She uses her platform to advocate for policies and practices that promote fairness, transparency, and user control in the digital realm. Her focus on open data, for example, directly addresses issues of information asymmetry and can contribute to a more equitable society by democratizing access to valuable knowledge. Her critiques of surveillance capitalism and

advocacy for user privacy also have DEI implications, as marginalized communities are often disproportionately affected by data misuse.

3. **Hands-on Engagement and Mentorship:** She is known for her direct engagement with the companies and projects she supports, offering strategic advice and mentorship. This "smart money" approach is different from simply writing a check; it involves active participation in building solutions. This can indirectly support DEI by fostering the growth of diverse teams and perspectives within the tech ecosystem.

4. **Focus on "Future-Proofing" and Systemic Change:** Dyson often thinks about

long-term societal impact and systemic change. Her work on digital literacy, health data ownership, and responsible AI governance aims to build foundational structures that can prevent future inequities rather than just addressing existing ones. This proactive approach to preventing harm and building a more equitable future aligns with the deeper goals of DEI.

DEI Content and Purpose in Esther Dyson's Work:

While she may not explicitly state "DEI" in every initiative, the underlying purpose of much of Esther Dyson's work has strong DEI implications:
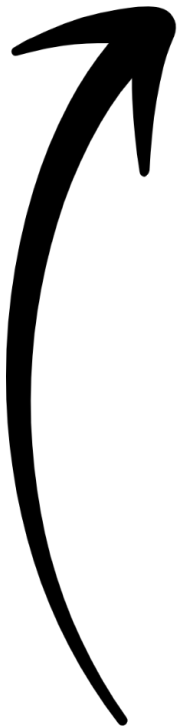
- **Access to Information and Data:** Her advocacy for open data and her investment in initiatives that make health data more accessible empower individuals and communities, especially those historically excluded or underserved, to make more informed decisions about their well-being.

- **Responsible Technology Development:** By pushing for ethical AI and a more responsible internet, she implicitly addresses how technology can perpetuate or mitigate biases and discrimination. This directly relates to digital equity and ensuring that technological advancements benefit everyone, not just a select few.

- **Empowering Individuals:** Her focus on individual agency and control over personal data and health information aligns with the DEI principle of self-determination and empowering marginalized voices.
- **Systemic Solutions:** Many of her efforts aim to create more robust and equitable systems (e.g., healthcare data infrastructure, ethical AI frameworks) that can lead to more equitable outcomes for a broader population.

In conclusion, while MacKenzie Scott and Reed Hastings primarily leverage significant financial donations to drive DEI, Esther Dyson's contribution to a more equitable

future comes more from her strategic investments, thought leadership, and active involvement in shaping the ethical and accessible development of technology and information. Her approach is about building the foundation for a more just and inclusive digital society.

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